

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: NA

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SUBJECT: FINAL COMMUNIQUE ON CUNHAL VISIT TAKES ON ANTI-
IMPERIALIST (AND ANTI-CHINESE) CHARACTER

SUMMARY: THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE ON PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST
LEADER CUNHAL'S VISIT TO EAST BERLIN WAS USED AS AN OCCASION
TO CRITICIZE THE "ANTI-SOVIET AND ANTI-SOCIALIST" COURSE
BEING STERRED BY THE CHINESE COMMUNIST LEADERSHIP, AND BY
OTHER REACTIONARY FORCES AROUND THE WORLD. THE
COMMUNIQUE ALSO GIVES SOME INSIGHTS INTO CURRENT SED
THINKING ON OTHER SUBJECTS AND GIVES SUPPORT TO A
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SUCCESSFUL CALLING AND CONCLUSION OF THE PROPOSED

EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

1. THE TWO-DAY EAST BERLIN PORTION OF ALVARO CUNHAL'S CURRENT VISIT TO EASTERN EUROPE ENDED ON NOVEMBER 19. THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE AND AN EDITED VERSION OF CUNHAL'S PRESS CONFERENCE IN BERLIN ON THE DAY OF DEPARTURE WERE PUBLISHED IN NEUES DEUTSCHLAND AND OTHER PAPERS ON NOVEMBER 20. EMPHASIS IN THESE REPORTS REFLECTS THE UNOFFICIAL NATURE OF THE CUNHAL VISIT WHEN COMPARED TO THE RECENT VISIT OF PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES TO THE USSR AND POLAND AND TO HIS RECEPTION BY SED PARTY LEADERS (AND NOT BY GDR OFFICIALS) DURING THE VISIT. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE WAS CAREFUL TO AVOID VOICING SUPPORT FOR CUNHAL AND THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNISTS ALONE IN THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION IN PORTUGAL. THE COMMUNIQUE SPEAKS, FOR EXAMPLE, OF THE NEED FOR THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY, AND ALL "ANTI-FASCIST AND GENUINE DEMOCRATIC FORCES", TO FIGHT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND THE NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE OF PORTUGAL. THE COMMUNIQUE HAS A HEAVY IDEOLOGICAL TONE AND TAKES THE EXPECTED STAND ON ANGOLA AND CHILE.

2. OF INTEREST ARE THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN THE COMMUNIQUE, PARTICULARLY FOR THE CHANGE IN STYLE FROM OTHER SIMILAR COMMUNIQUEs AND FOR THE LIGHT SHED ON CURRENT COMMUNIST THINKING ON THE ISSUES CONCERNED:

A) IN DISCUSSING THE FINAL ACT OF HELSINKI, THE SED LEADERSHIP DOES NOT MENTION BASKET ONE OR THE SECURITY ASPECTS OF THE FINAL ACT, THE INVIOABILITY OF BORDERS, ETC., BUT PREFERS TO INVEIGH AGAINST THE ENEMIES OF DETENTE "IN EUROPE AND THE WORLD AT LARGE". IT ACCUSES THESE FORCES OF CONDUCTING AN "ANTI-SOCIALIST AND ANTI-SOVIET" CAMPAIGN.

B) THE COMMUNIQUE DEFINES PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AS "PEACE BETWEEN SOCIALIST AND CAPITALIST STATES--BUT NOT PEACE BETWEEN ANTAGONISTIC CLASSES--BETWEEN THE WORKING CLASS AND CAPITAL (KAPITAL)".

C) BOTH THE SED AND THE PKP SUPPORT THE EFFECTIVE CONCLUSION OF THE PREPARATION FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNIST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARTY CONFERENCE AND ANNOUNCE THEIR SUPPORT FOR A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THE CONFERENCE, ITSELF.

D) THE TWO PARTIES EMPHASIZE THE NECESSITY TO DEAL A DECIDING BLOW AGAINST THE ANTI-SOVIET AND ANTI-PEACE LOVING COURSE OF THE PEKING LEADERSHIP WHICH IS BOUND TOGETHER WITH THE POLITICS OF THE AGGRESSIVE REPRESENTATIVES OF IMPERIALISTIC REACTION.

3. DURING CUNHAL'S VISIT HE LAID A WREATH AT THE ANTI-FASCIST MEMORIAL ON UNTER DEN LINDEN AND THEN WAS PROMPTLY ESCORTED FOR A VIEW FROM THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE BRANDENBURG GATE AND THE BERLIN WALL. A PHOTO SHOWING HONECKER AND CUNHAL AT THE WALL WAS DULY PUBLISHED IN EAST BERLIN NEWSPAPERS, ALTHOUGH IT IS UNCHARACTERISTIC OF THE EAST GERMANS TO GIVE ANY PUBLICITY AT ALL TO THIS STRUCTURE.

4. COMMENT: THE DRAFTING OF THIS FINAL COMMUNIQUE POSED SOME PROBLEMS FOR THE SED LEADERSHIP. BECAUSE OF THE CONFUSED SITUATION IN PORTUGAL AND PERHAPS AT CUNHAL'S REQUEST, THEY MUTED THEIR SUPPORT OF HIM PERSONALLY IN FAVOR OF SUPPORT FOR ALL "DEMOCRATIC" FORCES IN THE PRESENT POLITICAL STRUGGLE FOR HEGEMONY THERE. IN THE PAST, SED PUBLICATIONS HAVE TENDED TO DESCRIBE CUNHAL HIMSELF AS A POSSIBLE MARTYR IN THE SAME WAY AS CORVALAN IN CHILE AND TO GIVE THEIR SUPPORT FOR HIM AND HIS PARTY ALONE. THE IDEOLOGICAL TENOR OF THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE APPEARS TO BETRAY A STUDIED INTEREST BY THE GDR TO USE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO POINT OUT THE DANGERS OF CHINESE ATTITUDES AND ACTIONS CONTRARY TO THE PROGRESS OF SOCIALISM AND IN ALLIANCE WITH REACTIONARY FORCES IN THE WEST. THE STATEMENTS ABOUT THE "ANTI-SOVIET" NATURE OF THE PEKING LEADERSHIP WERE A STRONG ATTACK ON THE CHINESE AND UPON THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE SOVIET AND EAST GERMAN VIEW OF DETENTE. REFERENCE TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONFERENCE IS CONSISTENT WITH THE LINE TAKEN IN THE EAST GERMAN PRESS THAT THE MEETING OF THE DRAFTING GROUP IN JANUARY, 1976, WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON A FINAL COMMUNIQUE FOR THE CONFERENCE AND IN SETTING A DATE FOR CONVENING THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEETING OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES. COOPER

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